

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 11 (cancelled)

12. (currently amended): A robotic lawn mower suitable for mowing lawns which include golf balls lying thereon, said lawn mower having a chassis and a cutting attachment linked to said chassis via a suspension system such that the cutting attachment can be raised or lowered, said cutting attachment comprising a motor with a driving shaft linked to a cutter disk perpendicular to said shaft and provided at its periphery with at least one blade, and a bottom plate mounted freely on a pin of the cutter disk via a roller bearing and freely rotatable about said driving shaft and positioned so as to be substantially parallel to, and located beneath the cutter disk, the periphery of the bottom plate having substantially coplanar extensions extending radially beyond a zone reachable by the blades and wherein said bottom plate is circular and has a size, excluding the extensions, which is substantially equal to or smaller than the size of the cutter disk excluding the blades, said extensions functioning, when contacted by golf balls on the lawn being mowed, to raise the cutting attachment through said suspension system, so as to lift the cutter disk and maintain permit golf balls which are contacted on the lawn being mowed to pass under the bottom plate outside the reach of said blades, while allowing the blades to continue to mow.

Claim 13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended): A lawn mower as claimed in claim 12 wherein the extensions are provided in the form of prongs having a rounded profile made of hollows and tips, outer ends of said extensions being upwardly curved.

15. (previously presented): A lawn mower as claimed in claim 14, wherein the distance between two tips or ends of adjacent extensions ranges from 2 cm to 5 cm.

16. (previously presented): A lawn mower as claimed in claim 12, wherein the number of extensions ranges from 10 to 60.

Claims 17 - 21 (cancelled)

22. (previously presented): In a method for mowing grass with a robotic lawn mower, the improvement wherein the robotic lawn mower is one according to claim 12 whereby damage to golf balls in the grass being mowed is avoided.
23. (previously presented): The method of claim 22 wherein the grass being mowed is a golf course.